It is understood that the Iranian internal procedures required to be completed for he approval of the SPA have not yet been finalized. The matter is being pursued with the Iranian authorities.

Parallel sale of kerosene

814. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to amend SKO Control order of 93 by allowing parallel sale of kerosene;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would be able to check the prices of kerosene if the kerosene is imported privately; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) This Ministry had introduced Parallel Marketing System (PMS) for kerosene *vide* Notification dated 2.9.1993 allowing the private agencies to import and market kerosene at market prices in the country. Subsequently, on the recommendation of this Ministry, Deptt. of Commerce *vide* Notification dated 25.11.2003 canalized the import of kerosene through State Trading Enterprises such as Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and IBP Company Limited (IBP) for all purposes and also through the State Trading Corporation by Advance License Holders. SKO Control Order, 1993 has now been amended on 06.07.2006 allowing parallel marketers to source their requirements from indigenous sources also.

(c) and (d) The price of kerosene supplied through the PDS is currently Rs. 9.05/litre in Delhi and has not been increased since April 2002. Parallel marketers are free to sell the kerosene at market determined prices.

LPG coverage in Rajasthan

815. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what per cent of population has been covered by domestic LPG in Rajasthan;